



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80436

TSUKADA, Kenji, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/798,409

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 5988

Examiner: Rose Mary Miller

Filed: March 12, 2004

For: DETECTOR OF LIQUID CONSUMPTION CONDITION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

As all of the identified references are U.S. Patents, Applicant has not submitted copies of the references.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

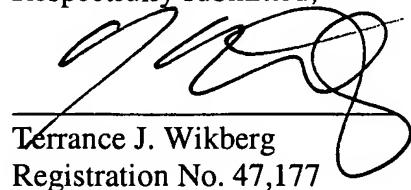
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/798,409

Our Ref: Q80436  
Art Unit: 2856

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE  
**23373**  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 27, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/798,409
		Confirmation Number	5988
		Filing Date	March 12, 2004
		First Named Inventor	TSUKADA, Kenji
		Art Unit	2856
		Examiner Name	Rose Mary Miller
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	O80436

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

CITED PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,841,454		11-24-1998	Hall et al.
		US 6,536,861		03-25-2003	Usui et al.
		US 6,003,966		12-21-1999	Ahn, Byung-Sun
		US 5,179,389		01-12-1993	Arai et al.
		US 4,570,482		02-18-1986	Murata et al.
		US 5,233,369		08-03-1993	Carlotta et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.